(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

**NAIS for fruits in Andhra Pradesh**

1057. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified certain areas in Andhra Pradesh for extending National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to fruits like mango, orange, banana, etc. in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether premium for these perennial crops has also been decided; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, one district (Chittoor) in Andhra Pradesh has been identified to cover mango crop under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) on experimental basis. It has been decided to charge actuarial rate of premium for insuring the mango crop in this experimental study.

**Dues under NAIS in Gujarat**

1058. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insurance amount to be paid to farmers under the Crop Insurance Scheme has been outstanding in all the districts of Gujarat for the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of payments made as insurance claims during the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) by when all the outstanding dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No Sir. All the claims for Rabi 1999-2000 to Rabi 2000-01 season have already been settled. However, settlement of some claims in respect of cotton and paddy crops for Kharif 2001 season have been delayed in view of the investigations carried out to sort out the discrepancies noticed. The claims of Rabi 2001-02, amounting to Rs. 46.16 lakhs in 12 districts have been sanctioned but payment is pending due to non-receipt of State share.

(c) The NAIS is introduced in the country including Gujarat from Rabi 1999-2000 season. Before the introduction of NAIS, Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) was in operation. Details of the claims paid during last five years (1997-98 to 2001-02) are given as under:

| Year | Claims Paid (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---|---|
| 1997-1998 | 172.42 |
| 1998-1999 | 2084.84 |
| 1999-2000 | 27554.61 |
| 2000-2001 | 77313.33 |
| 2001-2002 | 1447.65 |

(d) The pending claims will be settled after the investigation of disputed claims is completed and requisite State's share is received.

**MSP for Sugarcane**

1059. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Sugarcane Growers Association in Vijayawada had urged the Central Government on 23rd September, 2002 to declare Rs. 1,000 as Minimum Support Price at 8.5 per cent recovery rate, since the total yield in the State had come down due to the prevailing drought conditions;

(b) if so, whether requests for high MSP have also been received from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and other sugar-producing States;

(c) if so, the details of the demands received from different States; and

(d) Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government fixes Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane and not Minimum Support Price (MSP). No request from the Andhra Pradesh Sugar-cane Growers' Association in Vijayawada to declare Rs. 1,000/- as SMP for sugarcane at 8.5% recovery rate for 2002-03 sugar season has been received.

(b) No such requests have been received from any Sugarcane Growers' Association in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and other sugar-producing States.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.